

EDITORIAL

Our Associate Editor, Margaret Nice, reminds us that many Wilson Club members are in a position to gather important bits of missing data on the breeding habits of American birds but are often failing to do so because they overlook the need.

Some of the chief lacks in our knowledge of even common species are accurate records on: size and method of choosing and defending territory; exact share of the sexes in nest-building, incubation, and in care of the young; length of incubation period; time of laying individual eggs; length of time young stay in the nest; age when young become independent; and number of broods raised.

Many of these points are not known for species that are very familiar to most of us. Even if someone has already published on some of these items for the species you are studying, it will be well to check to confirm or correct that data.

The utmost accuracy and attention to detail is essential when gathering such data. For example, the incubation period should be counted from the laying of the last egg to the hatching of that egg. Or it may be counted from the laying to the hatching of a given marked egg, provided there is exact information on the time when incubation began. As soon as each egg is laid it can be marked with India ink, using a grass stalk as a pen.

We are indebted to Frank W. Braund and E. Perry McCullagh for assistance which enables us to print more pages this month without extra strain on the Club's slender resources.

The Local Committee on Arrangements for the Annual Meeting in Minneapolis next fall has been holding preliminary meetings and reports that headquarters will be next to the Museum of Natural History in a building known as the "Center for Continuation Study." Rooms and meals will be available there at reasonable rates.

The meeting promises to be an unusually interesting one and members should begin to make plans to attend this, our first Minnesota meeting.

OBITUARY

DR. WILFRED A. WELTER of Morehead, Kentucky, was killed in an automobile accident near Chicago on December 20, 1939. He was Professor of Biology at Teachers College, Morehead, and had published several ornithological papers in *The Wilson Bulletin* and other journals.

ALBERT R. BRAND of Cornell University died March 28, 1940, at his home in Ithaca after a long illness. He was formerly a banker and stock broker in New York City and after retiring from business at the age of 40, had become an outstanding authority on the recording and study of bird song by means of sound film.

THE REV. F. C. R. JOURDAIN, the eminent authority on the life histories of European birds, died in England on February 27, 1940.

HENRIK GRÖNVOLD, the celebrated bird artist, died in England on March 22, 1940, at the age of 81. Although born and trained in Denmark, he had lived in England since 1892.